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ON THE USE OF HIGH ATTENUATIONS IN HOMEOPATHIC PRACTICE.

BY DR. C. VON BÖNNINGHAUSEN, OF MÜNSTER, WESTPHALIA.

Concluded from page 29.

9. (Vol. 78, page 145). Sophia S—, an infant, six months old, was suddenly seized with an attack of quinsy, which speedily gained ground, threatening the life of the child. When I was called in, the case exhibited every sign of gravity and danger, which was the more serious, as two hours had already elapsed since it had taken this turn.

I found all the usual symptoms, such as heat and redness of the face, hoarseness, cough sounding like croup, rattling in the throat when the child falls asleep.

March 21, 1851. 1, *Acon.* 200; 2, *Hep. sulph. calc.* 200; 3, *Spongia*, 200; 4, *Hep. sulph. calc.* 200. One powder to be taken every five hours.

After the second powder, the infant was already perfectly cured, and there was accordingly no need to administer 3 and 4. I mention this case here to show that high dynamizations are quite in their place in acute diseases. For several years I have invariably used, in croup and other acute diseases, the 200th attenuation, and this without ever failing once in my object.

10 (Vol. 78, page 151). H. S—, goldsmith, aged 34 years; has since three years been affected with a severe cough, attended with retching, and often with vomiting, which gives some relief; the expectoration is scanty and insipid. The cough comes on every morning, immediately after the patient has partaken of food or drink; also after smoking, but most severely after drinking wine. He ascribes the origin of the cough to the sudden ingestion of very hot coffee. At a former period he had the itch, which was treated with *Sulphur* and *Soap*; and also gonorrhœa, which was suppressed by *Copraea* and *Merc.* (the latter in doses of six grains.)

I could not ascertain from the patient what medicines he had taken up to the time of his application to me. He could inform me only that *Oleum Crotonis* and *Pimpinella* were

of the number, but that he had never derived the slightest benefit from any of the preparations prescribed for him.

March 22, 1851. 1, *Nux Vomica* 200; 2, *Ipecacuanha* 200; 3, *Nux Vomica* 200; 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. One powder to be taken every third evening.

April 14. Twenty-four hours after the administration of the first powder, a considerable improvement manifested itself, and continued up to the present time. The morbid symptoms now make their appearance only after drinking, and no longer after eating. The patient feels a kind of narrowing or contraction in the urethra when urinating. 1, *Ars.* 3000; 2 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. One powder to be taken every fifth evening.

Three weeks after he felt perfectly cured; and as I have neither seen him nor heard from him since, although he could come to me by rail in about an hour's time, I think I may assume that he continues to enjoy good health.

11. (Vol. 78, page 153). A. C—, a boy, aged 13, has been affected since two years with tinea favosa, on the hairy scalp, and with herpes farin. (pityriasis), spread in small isolated spots all over the body. In other respects the boy is well.

In this case various ointments, oils, and soaps had been used, and also *Mercury*, but all without the desired effect.

March 23, 1851. 1, *Sulphur* 2000; 2, *Sulphur* 4000; 3, $\frac{1}{2}$. One powder to be taken every eighth day.

April 19. Considerable improvement. 1, *Sulphur* 6000; 2 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. One powder to be taken every eighth day.

May 26. Improvement, but less marked than the last time. 1, *Calc. carb.* 2000; 2 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. One powder to be taken every eighth day.

July 7. Further considerable improvement. Most of the spots are completely healed. 1, *Silicea* 4000; 2 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. One powder to be taken every eighth day.

After this the eruption vanished completely. The skin assumed the natural healthy color, and up to this day the boy continues in good health.

12. (Vol. 78, page 174). A. A—, an infant about 12 months old, son of a teacher; about six months ago reddish spots appeared about the ears, and afterwards on his face, hands and arms. The allopathic medicines which

were administered to the child only had the effect of causing the eruption to spread over the rest of the body. The way in which the eruption proceeds and runs its course is as follows: At first the skin gets red, and a little discharge makes its appearance; afterwards a yellow crust forms, with purulent matter underneath it; in the course of a few days the crust turns to a dark brown or blackish color, and finally scales off, but is speedily replaced by another red spot, which then goes through the same course, and so on. The father, mother, and grandmother of the child had, in their time, suffered from similar eruptions.

I could not ascertain from the parents what were the allopathic medicines hitherto administered to the infant. They could only inform me that the poor little patient had been made to drink copiously of tea of *Viola tricolor* (Jacca).

March 29, 1851. 1, *Sulph.* 2000; 2, *Psor.* 2000; 3, *Sulph.* 4000; 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. One powder to be taken every fifth day.

April 26. Considerable improvement in all the symptoms. 1, *Calc. carb.* 2000; 2 to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. One powder every fifth day.

After this the eruption disappeared altogether, and the child continues well up to this day.

13. (Vol. 78, page 209). P. R.—, a girl, aged 18 years; has been subject since five years to epileptic attacks, which appeared formerly at longer intervals, but latterly they have become much more frequent, often five or six times in a day. During the attacks, there is yellowness of the face, bluish color around the eyes, and entire loss of consciousness; the attacks last at least five minutes; the menses come too soon and too strong; before and during the accession the patient suffers from spasms in the abdomen, sometimes also headache; anxiety at the appearance of the attacks; without pains or other sensations; black spots only under the eyes, with blue lips; much coldness; no thirst; she is better in the morning; oppressed in the warm room; formerly suffered much from ascarides; temper irritable; uneasy by strong motion, palpitation of the heart; without anxiety.

Although the allopath knows that such cases are incurable, she has nevertheless taken a variety of drugs.

April 8, 1851. 1, $\frac{1}{2}$ 2000; 2 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. A powder every third evening.

April 29. The attacks very much diminished, and only before and after the period; a few attacks; none in the interval; also better in other respects, and looks better. In the beginning of the menses, cramps in the abdomen. 1, *Cuprum met.* 2000; 2 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. Like the former, every third evening.

May 19. After some time, strong epileptic attacks, during and before the menses, with much coldness and pains in the hips; she is very melancholy and irritable before the

monthly indisposition. 1, *Calc. carb.* 200; 2 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. As before.

June 3. Has had no fresh attack. 1 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. As before.

June 23. A strong epileptic attack at the appearance of the menses, which were copious. 1 *Calc. carb.* 3000, 2 to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. As before.

July 9. No attack the last fourteen days, although she was exposed at times to much mental excitement. 1 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. As before, every third evening.

July 24. Many strong attacks during the time of the monthly illness, with soreness and burning in the parts. I suspect masturbation. 1, *Phosphor.* 2000; 2 to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. As the former.

September 18. She remained well until the last eight days, when she again suffered from an attack, at the time of the monthly appearance. 1, *Nux vom.* 200; 2 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$; 3, *Natrum mur.* 2000. A powder every fifth evening.

October 25. Soon after (3 *Natrum mur.*) she had, at the time of the menses, a strong attack, but has remained free since that time.

Time will show if this be a cure and permanent.

14. (Vol. 78, page 217). C. S.—, a girl, 13 years of age, of a delicate constitution; was first attacked with diarrhoea, which had been checked by allopathic means; this was followed by a severe, hard, dry cough, which has continued more than four months; it is worse in the evening, and in the fresh air; the child is very much reduced; pain in the chest when coughing, and strong perspiration in the evening while in bed. The child feels much better when in a warm room; stitches in the temples when coughing; aversion to fat and vegetables; had a humid eruption around the chin, and there are still to be seen a few red spots; humid eruptions on the head. The mother had, during pregnancy with this child, an eruption over the whole body.

The allopathic remedies produced no effect, amongst which were particularly *Ammon. muriat.*, *Columbo.*, *Opium.*, *Rheum.*, *Cascara.* and *Spirit Mindereri*. As the last resource, refuge was taken in Homeopathy.

April 10, 1851. 1 to 3, *Hep. sulph. calc.*; 2, *Spengia*, of each 200; 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. A dose every fifth evening.

May 3. Something better; dry cough in the evening, particularly affected by tobacco-smoke. 1, *Petrol.* 200; 2 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. As the former.

May 26. Better in every respect. 1, *Petrol.* 2000; 2 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. After which perfect restoration to health.

15. (Vol. 78, page 220.) T. P.—, an unmarried lady, aged 50 years; has suffered since youth from headache. Having consulted many physicians without receiving the least benefit, she submitted to her fate, and took no more medicine. She was advised by her friends to consult me; she called, but was incredulous in the highest degree. The headache before men-

tioned still exists; pressure on the top of the head, generally worse before noon, but often increasing towards evening, also during motion; worse in a warm room; vomiting of everything except animal food; shortness of breath in walking; sleep good; the menses, which have now ceased, were formerly scanty; much overpowering heat; violent and irritable temper, and during the headache much crying. She has been subject to fits of vomiting from her youth.

April 12, 1851. 1, *Nux vomica* 1000; 2 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. Every fifth evening.

May 12. She remained free from headache until the end of the last week, to her great astonishment; it again appeared with violent shooting (not pressing) on the top of the head, accompanied with sour and bitter vomiting; eruption on the right eye-brow. 1, *Sepia* 200; 2 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. Of each powder, dissolved in water, during three consecutive evenings, a spoonful; nothing the two following evenings.

May 29. She had a very severe attack, which lasted but one day; some headache; but in the morning, in bed, a creeping, crawling sensation in the hands. 1, *Sepia* 2000; 2 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. Like the former.

June 20. No headache, and is now quite well. 1, *Sepia* 4000; 2 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. Like the former.

Nothing more was necessary; all the sufferings she has had for so many years have entirely ceased. She has now full confidence in our mode of practice.

16. (Vol. 78, page 225.) C. W—, a girl, 14 years of age, from the country. She is confined to bed and has been in bad health for a year; she formerly suffered from an eruption on the top of the head, which has been suppressed allopathically by ointments; since that time constant headache with sickness, worse in the evening, and when moving; pain in the hips, worse in the evening and during motion; sickness after every meal; chilliness; no perspiration while in bed; a desire for salt; an aversion to milk; great weakness, so that she can scarcely bear being out of bed for a few moments. She has been treated allopathically for a long time without the least benefit.

April 14, 1851. 1, *Sulphur* 2000; 2, *Sulphur* 4000; 3 and 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. A powder every fifth evening.

May 12. Considerably better. 1, *Sulphur* 6000; 2 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. Like the former.

This long-suffering young person is now in excellent health. *Sulphur*, in a high dynamization, was the only remedy used.

17. (Vol. 78, page 230.) N. L—, a boy, aged eight years, has been sickly for four years, but has become worse the last two months from the effects of whooping-cough; violent cough, with sweetish expectoration, which is worse when beginning to move in the room, and after walking in the open air; much vomiting in the evening and at night, mostly mucus, but once lately blood; aversion

to fat; feels chilly; no thirst; frequent bleeding of the nose at night; very bashful and timid. He was attacked in the winter with the measles, after which he had whooping-cough.

He has for a long time been treated allopathically, and has taken a variety of drugs; latterly, much *Ferr. acet.* and *Ammon. muriat.*

April 17, 1851. 1 to 3, *Pulsatilla*; 2, *Sulphur*, of each 200; 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. A dose every fifth evening.

May 9. Considerably better; the boy is scarcely to be recognised. 1, *Sulphur* 2000; 2 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$; 3, *Pulsatilla* 200.

These remedies were sufficient to remove all diseased symptoms, and his health is now better than it has ever been.

18. (Vol. 78, page 275). H. H—, aged 22 years; suffered for ten years from caries and enlargement of the bone of the whole right leg, with its toes; the leg is considerably swelled, which aches and burns; and from six holes there runs constantly a watery, sometimes bloody and very ichorous discharge. During the winter, the pain in the leg ceases, when he suffers from a severe cough. At the approach of spring, the pains in the leg increase, and the cough ceases. He is compelled to walk with crutches. He has been under allopathic treatment ten years without receiving any benefit.

April 27, 1851. 1 to 3, *Silicea*; 2, *Hep. sulph. calc.* of each 200; 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. A powder every fifth evening; and to cover the suppurating holes with tallow and lint.

May 25. Much improved. 1, *Hep. sulph. calc.* 2000; 2 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. To be taken like the former.

June 15. Continued improvement; suppuration continues. 1, *Silicea*, 4000; 2 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. Like the former.

July 6. Great improvement, as expected; several holes closed; the pains have entirely ceased. He has put aside the crutches. 1 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. Like the former.

August 3. Continued improvement. 1, *Silicea* 6000; 2 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. As before.

August 31. Again considerable progress. He does not only go without crutches, but has walked to-day a distance of six miles, and will walk the same distance in the afternoon. 1 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. As before.

September 28. Much improved in health; but two holes still suppurate, particularly that of the great toe; all the others are closed, and the foot which was so much swollen has now assumed its usual size. 1 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. As the former.

October 19. Since eight days there seems to be a check in the improvement; there is still a hole which suppurates; the pain has entirely ceased; he takes much exercise throughout the day. 1, *Hep. sulph. calc.* 3000; 2 to 4, $\frac{1}{2}$. To use like the others.

Although the cure is not completed, yet we

have no doubt that the result will be favorable. My object in communicating this case is to show that even in similar complaints the high potencies exert their action.

19. (Vol. 78, page 279). H. B.—, a young man, aged 18 years, suffered since two years (after the death of his brother, who died from consumption, he had slept in his bed until the last moment) from shortness of breath, as if the chest were tightened by a bandage; expectorating in the morning some sweetish, putrid matter; great hunger, with a general decline; after a meal, he is a little better for half an hour, otherwise he is worse from nine o'clock in the morning until seven o'clock in the evening, when he rests.

He has taken much medicine for two years, but I could not ascertain of what kind.

April 28. 1, *Phosphorus* 2000; 2 to 4, §. Each powder to be dissolved in three tea-spoonfuls of water, and to take one for three evenings consecutively, and then to stop two evenings.

May 15. Was much better, however, and took coffee after the use of the four powders, and now he complains of shooting pains in the chest, and a sensation as if something had been torn away; worse in the morning and at noon; better after a meal. 1, *Nux vomica* 2000; 2 to 4, §; 3, *Phosphorus* 4000. Like the former; after which he was entirely well.

20. I conclude with the cure of a bird. The professor of languages to my children called eight days ago to tell me that two of his canary birds had died, and the third was about to die, apparently of the same complaint. The bird ate constantly in the cage, but everything passed from him undigested. *Pulsatilla* 2000, cured him completely, to the great astonishment of the professor.—*Homeopathic Times*.

STRAY NOTES.

BY AN OLD PRACTITIONER.

Vitalism and Vetusism.

These two terms perhaps read, look, and sound as well in juxtaposition, and convey at least as clear and distinct ideas, as the names Homeopathy and Allopathy. The word vitalism, of course, needs no explanation, its meaning in relation to our system is at once perceived by whosoever has rightly understood Hahnemann's doctrine. Of vetusism I said, in a previous article, that it appeared to me the most appropriate term by which to designate the ordinary mode of treating disease, and I promised to justify so uncomplimentary a title forthwith.

When we speak of medical art in the ordinary sense of the word, we simply mean the therapeutic branch of medicine; and speaking of therapeutics, we mean, in the same sense,

almost exclusively, the application of those dynamic agents generally called medicines. It is, of course, essential that a medical man, before he makes use of medicines for the cure of disease, should know what the therapeutic properties of these agents are. In Homeopathy the trial of the medicines on persons in health is the principle which reveals to the practitioner their therapeutic virtues; but allopathy has no such principle. It has endeavored to find it in chemical investigation and has failed; it has scrutinized the smell, taste, form, color, and the physical properties of medicinal substances, and has been disappointed; it has tried its medicines upon animals, and has tortured the poor creatures in vain; it has thought that certain plants and minerals would exhibit their medicinal properties according to their position in the modern system of botany and mineralogy, and has found itself mistaken. Finally, in despair, it has thrown itself into the arms of conjecture and empiricism. The latter, however (*usus in morbis*, the use or rather abuse in disease), is the sheet-anchor of the ordinary therapeutics; a medicine is given in a case of disease, *because it has produced, or is said to have produced beneficial effects in similar cases*. Now this same sheet-anchor of the principal portion of the ordinary allopathic art is also the sheet-anchor in the ordinary "old woman's" practice. An "old woman" (*vetus*) recommends and gives her medicines exactly upon the same meagre principle as the allopath, *ab usu in morbis*; therefore, as far as principle is concerned (aye, and practice, too), there is hardly a difference between allopathy and vetusism; and if there is, it is rather in favor of the "old woman" than of the allopath. For her "system" is as old as mankind itself; she generally gives simples, and does not mix half a dozen powerful medicines together; she thereby does infinitely less harm, and can follow the effects of such simples with much greater clearness and precision than the allopath can the effects of his mixtures. Moreover, she seldom or never bleeds, leeches, salivates, cuts, and burns, as the allopath does; and last, though not least, she never tries to deck out her simple experience in tawdry rags of subtle theory and clumsy speculation. I need not pursue the subject further, and shall only add, that taking these various facts into consideration, one arrives, through an easy *sorites*, at the inevitable and strictly syllogistic conclusion, not only that allopathy does not essentially differ from "old woman's" practice (vetusism), but also, what on the whole experience confirms, that it is safer to intrust the treatment of disease to a cautious "old woman," than to a drugging, drenching, bleeding, leeching, salivating, blistering, cutting, and burning allopath, with his raw and coarse notions of the therapeutic properties of medicines, and of the susceptibility of the organism in a state of disease.

Is Allopathy a System?

Science, in a philosophical sense, consists in carefully-ascertained data, and the laws, principles, and rules derived from them through cautious induction. Science becomes a *system* when these isolated laws, principles and rules are intimately connected with, depend upon, and verify each other, and thus severally contribute, like the different parts of a healthy organism, to form a symmetrical whole. The most perfect form of a system is that which has, as a centre, some comprehensive law of nature, or some supreme principle from which all the other parts depend, and round which they harmoniously gravitate.

To this most perfect form of a system Homeopathy has a right to lay claim. In the homeopathic system of therapeutics, as taught by Hahnemann, the law *similia similibus* is the great centre; the principle of trying the medicines on the healthy body emanates from and is vitally connected with it; the principle of homeopathic doses and their preparation is derived and cannot be legitimately separated from the former; so also that of giving only one medicine at a time. Again, the homeopathic regimen is the necessary consequence of the other principles. Thus in this beautifully-constructed system all the different parts are closely connected with, vitally depending upon, and so indispensably necessary to each other, that none could be taken away without essentially injuring the whole edifice.

Let us compare with this the so-called *allopathic system*. Where is the great central principle of allopathic therapeutics? Where are the laws, principles, and rules which are admitted as such by all, or which even deserve any such name? Echo answers, Where? It is true, the history of medicine tells us that attempts without number have been made, from time to time, to give to medicine the form of a system. But what has become of them? has any of them survived? No; they were simply hot-house plants, which wanted the essential conditions of a healthy continuance of life, and bore at their very birth the germs of early decay and death within themselves. And why? Simply because they were either speculative systems spun *a priori* from the framer's brain without any or sufficient experimental foundation, or because undue and hasty inferences were drawn from loosely-observed and imperfectly-authenticated facts. How different and truly philosophical the method which Hahnemann followed in the construction of his *system*! It was only after the most careful and discriminating collection of facts for many years, and only when he found that such facts always led to the same inference, and always found their complete explanation in that inference, that he finally enunciated the great fundamental law of his doctrine. Thus in the course of years, and always guided by the strict rules of scientific investigation, he

at last produced his astonishingly complete system of therapeutics, the true spirit of which is fully understood, as yet, by only a small number of his professional followers, but will, let us hope, be fully appreciated by subsequent generations. In comparison with this structure, as solid and sure as laws of nature can make it, in what a pitiable light does that wretched allopathic farrago appear, which has hitherto been honored with the noble name of a therapeutic *system*, whilst in reality it is nothing else but a compound of silly speculations and crude, unscientific routine, which not only can never be called (except, perhaps, ironically) a system, but which is even unworthy to be termed a science in the proper sense of the word. Therefore, instead of calling it the allopathic *system*, or any other name which implies order, unity, and method, call it the *ordinary therapeutics, the ordinary mode of treating disease*; not even allopathy in juxtaposition with homeopathy; and if you must have a concise and expressive term, call it **VENTULISM**.—*Homœopathic Times*.

SPECIMEN OF ALLOPATHIC PRACTICE.

The following very interesting case shows that the allopathic treatment in its heroic forms is, indeed, a very terrible affair. Observe the immense amount of depletion. The bleedings, the cuppings, the blisters, the shavings of the head, the setons, the leeches, constitute such an awful picture of allopathic misdoing, that we really have not heart to comment on the treatment. But the publication of such cases cannot fail to benefit our Cause, by contrasting the two modes of therapeutics.

Those who use such practice seem to be altogether unaware that what they call "depletion," and even some of our own body do not seem to be aware, that "starvation" can bring about the state of things described in the report of the *post-mortem* examination. We are satisfied that such cases as this ought to be published; and from time to time we mean to give such cases, to let our readers know what allopathic practice is. We are indebted to the "Chrono-Thermalist" for this extract, and for that in a late number about the **DUKE OF KENT**.

"The case of Elizabeth Wilson, second daughter of William Carus Wilson, Esq., born at Casterton Hall, near Kirkby-Lonsdale, Westmoreland, on 22d June, 1800.

"She was strong and healthy till frightened at church, 9th December, 1818; bled, 16th December, 1818, then took her bed, and there remained for eleven years, subjected to the treatment detailed below; during which time 'she was never able to take any breakfast; her dinner consisted of a little fish, or something else of a light nature; but frequently she never tasted anything till the afternoon, and then only a little tea. Her nights were uni-

formly restless and sleepless. The throbbing and noise in her head were incessant, and the palpitations at her heart almost equally so. Sometimes distracted with pain in her teeth, and very often the whole of her mouth and throat was ulcerated or inflamed in the most excruciating manner, rendering her unable to speak or to eat? (p. 68).

No. of Page in Memoir.	Date.	State of Health, Symp- toms, &c.	Medical or Surgical Treatment.	Remarks.
	1818.			
64	Dec. 9	Frightened at church.		
73	" 15	Walked to Kirkby and was bled.	Bled, first time.	Kirkby-Lonsdale is $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile from Casterton; hence it must be manifest that if very ill and weak on the 15th, she could not have walked three miles.
65	" 16	Soreness at chest and headache.	Took her bed.	We must not omit noticing she was well till bled.
	" 22	In great danger.		
1819.				
74	Jan. 22	Giddiness & trembling.	Cupped.	" During the years 1819 and 1820 her room was completely dark, she was unable to bear the light." —(p. 110.)
	" 30		Seton in back of neck.	
77	Feb. 2	Suffered by faintings.	Bled in the arm.	
82	" 9	Very low.		
87	" 10		Bled in the arm.	
	" 11		Cupped.	" Yet felt the symptoms coming on again," viz., continual throbbing pains in the head.
	" 12		Bled.	
88	" 13	Became worse.	Bled again.	
91	Aug. 27	In a state of stupor, with convulsions.		The memoir gives but a brief account of her phys- ical state of this year and the following.
	1820.			
93	Mar. 6	Dreadful pain in head.	Bled.	
100	Nov. 4	Ditto ditto	Bled.	
	1821.			
106	Jan. 20		Cupped.	
	1822.			
185	Feb. 27	Fever very high.	Bled.	
	Mar. 1	Mouth ulcerated.		Query; whether by mer- cury?
	" 4	Very ill.	Bled.	
	" 14	Continued ditto	Cupped.	
	" 16	In great danger.	Bled.	
186	June 3	Very poorly.	Head shaved and cupped back of neck.	
187	July 17	Seized with feverish attack.		
189	Dec. 14	Poorly.		" First began to be ill four years ago."
	1823.			
195	Feb. 22	Very, very low.	Cupped.	
196	June 6	Violent fever and in- flammation.	Bled.	" Seized suddenly very ill."
	" 7	Ditto.	Cupped and bled.	
197	" 10	Very bad in head.	Bled again.	" Rather relieved, but sick after everything."
200	Oct. 1	Violent spasms.		
201	Dec. 15	Very poorly.	Bled.	
	1824.			
205	Jan. 25	Very poorly.	Head shaved and a blister.	
	Feb. 10	Ditto.	Bled.	
	" 20	Very ill indeed.	Bled again.	
206	" 22	Very ill in her head.	Cupped.	" Rather relieved."
	" 25	Head as if all the skin was off inwardly.	Head shaved and blis- tered.	
208	May 29	Seized very ill.	Cupped and soon after bled.	" In a most suffering state." " Not one moment's ease."
	" 30			
	June 30	Weak and low.		
209	Oct. 25	Seized very ill.	Bled and cupped.	" In great suffering."
	" 26	Still very ill.	Blister on head.	" Rather relieved."
	" 27	Worse.	Bled again.	

No. of Page in Memoir.	Date.	State of Health, Symp- toms, &c.	Medical or Surgical Treatment.	Remarks.
	1825.			
213	June 10	Suffered very much.	Head shaved.	
"	14	Very poorly.	Bled.	
"	20	Suddenly very ill.	Bled.	
162	{ " 21	Very ill (morning).	Bled.	" Insensible, cold as a stone,
"	21	No better (evening).	Cupped on temple.	rather better after bleed-
"	22	Still very ill.	Cupped on other temple, and head shaved and blistered.	ing; but delirium and restlessness soon came on."
163	25 or 26	Same symptoms.	Same remedies.	" Dreadful vomiting and fainting, and strongly convulsed."
214	Nov. 5	Head heavy.	Bled.	
	1826.			
220	Jan. 22	Pain in head.	Opium and a blister.	" Most distressing nights."
221	Mar. 13	Taken very ill.	Bled.	" Fainted sadly."
"	15	Ditto.	Head shaved and blister put on.	
"	16	Very feverish.		
166	June 24	Very ill.	Bled.	
	1827.			
169	Apr. 21	Pain in side and fever.		
230	May 30	Constant headache.	Head shaved.	
	June 1	Ditto.	Cupped.	
	Aug. 31	Sore mouth and throat.	Blistered.	
232	Sept. 11	Ditto. ditto.	Another blister.	
"	14	Feverish.		
233	Oct. 15	Seized suddenly ill.	Bled and a blister.	
"	16	No better.	Bled again.	
"	20	Suddenly worse.	Bled a third time.	" This relieved her he " Fainted three times; very, very ill.
"	24	Very feverish.		
	1828.			
240	July 11	Pain in head.	Bled.	
	1829.			
245	Jan. 14	Very feverish.		
"	17	Whitlow on finger.		
"	28	Toothache.		
246	Feb. 3	Face and toothache.	Leeches for toothache.	
"	7	Toothache.	Blister.	
247	Mar. 13	Fever and thirst.		
	June 4	Seized suddenly ill.	Bled.	
"	5	Very ill.	Leeches.	
"	8	Very ill.	Bled.	" Shattered frame, suffer- ing acutely.
176	Dec. 26	Harassed & weakened by constant vomiting.		
"	27	Sudden stupor came on.	Bled in the arm.	" She then came to her self."
	1830.			
Jan. 2	Delirium came on.			
"	6	Fell asleep—died.		

" Appearances forty-six hours after death, from post-mortem examination. The Head. On removing the skull-cap, the substance of the bones was found to be very irregular. The natural depression and prominences were peculiarly strongly marked. The dura mater was more adherent in the course of the longitudinal sinus than usual, and the vessels on the surface were highly injected with blood; those over the anterior portion of the hemispheres of the brain evidencing recent inflammation, and those on the posterior part very great conges-

tion. The second membrane of the brain, the tunica arachnoidea was opaque in patches—also said to evidence recent inflammation—and gelatine was effused under it. Indeed, under the membrane a considerable quantity of serum was effused. The ventricles of the brain presented nothing unusual. The substance of the brain was much loaded with blood. Upon removing the brain, the base of the skull presented the same strongly-marked character of its usual depressions and prominences as the skull-cap; indeed in some parts

the prominences appeared like masses of adventitious bone—like so many points of unusual ossification. The petrous portions of the temporal bones in which the organ of hearing is developed, deviated considerably from the usual structure; inasmuch as they were remarkably attenuated and cellular, and easily fractured.

“*The Chest.*—Nothing remarkable but the heart, which was not more than half the usual size; its structure, however, was proportionate.

“*The Abdomen.*—Nothing remarkable presented itself here, beyond its contents partaking of the *general emaciation*.^{**}”

MEDICAL TREATMENT OF HORSES.

We have long had it in our mind to speak of the medical treatment of horses; not that we are qualified to lay down rules of practice, but for the purpose of directing the attention of our readers who may be interested in the subject, to the homeopathic treatment of the diseases of the horse, and indeed all animals.

Notwithstanding the efforts made by the French government to improve knowledge of the diseases of the horse, and corresponding exertions of the veterinary college at London, assisted by the society for the diffusion of useful knowledge, the amount of ignorance still of the diseases of the horse and their treatment, is a subject that should command the attention of all humane people.

Although the homeopathic treatment of human maladies is no longer a doubtful hypothesis, but is fully established, yet how few are aware that homeopathy is as suitable to the diseases of the horse and other animals, as to those of man. Marked success has resulted from this treatment wherever it has been adopted. Diseases which heretofore have been thought incurable by the best veterinary surgeons, yield promptly to the new practice. We mention *phrenitis*, commonly known as “mad staggers,” as an example among others.

We have frequently been pained at the brutal treatment we have witnessed in the management of sick horses, by ignorant persons, and it is to us a matter of surprise that these valuable animals are, often by their owners, committed to the hands of those entirely unfitted by nature or education, for the treatment of diseases, and thereby subjecting the

animal to the most severe tortures, and finally death. How preposterous the idea to allow so important and difficult a duty to be undertaken by persons in the most perfect ignorance of the nature of the subject, and whose delusions and superstitions could only excite our mirth, were it not for humanity’s sake. As well send a watch to a horse shoer for repairs, or inquire of a hostler the laws of optics, or expect from him a dissertation on the atomic theory!!! And yet as much as this is contrary to the common sense of mankind, it is not more so, than to expect a proper treatment of disease from incapacity and ignorance.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

ALFRED HUGHES, M.D., of Wheeling, Va., writes: “I would almost as soon be without a bed to sleep upon as to be without your valuable Journal.”

S. W. SUNDERLIN, M.D., of Hammondsport, Steuben Co., N. Y., writes: “The homeopathic practice in this part of the country is gaining the confidence of the people rapidly, especially among the intelligent and influential. Our allopathic brethren are making every effort in their power to prejudice the minds of the people against this practice, which is founded upon an immutable law of nature. I understand the medical society (allopathic) of this county, at one of its meetings, resolved that the members would not counsel with, countenance or associate with any homeopath.”

[We do not perceive any value in medical consultations of practitioners of the two schools. Every true homeopath knows that the counsel of an allopath in the treatment of the sick is not only useless, but sometimes pernicious. All proceedings like those mentioned by Dr. Sunderlin never fail to promote the spread of Homeopathy. Truth cannot be put down in that or any other way. She will prevail.—ED.]

H. KNAPP, M.D., of Adrian, Michigan, writes: “Our cause is gloriously advancing in Michigan. The Old School practice is becoming more and more loathsome, and less and less popular with the public mind. I take all the Western Journals, and I want yours, that I may know how our cause is prospering east.”

CHARLES BELL, M.D., of Medford, Mass.,

* The foregoing case is taken from a work entitled “*Memoir of a Beloved and Long-afflicted Sister.*” By William Carus Wilson, M.A., rector of Whittington, Svo., second edition. Seeley, London. 1842.

writes to us a very complimentary letter, and as we do not feel just at this time much of the influence of modesty, after some pretty severe back-handed blows we have lately received from some of our western newly fledged editors who have assumed that Homeopathy is almost as uncertain as Allopathy, and stands in need of the aid of Allopathy to keep her in countenance. Having no fellowship with that doctrine, and not being desirous for a war of words, we will let Dr. Bell speak for us, in the hope that those to whom we allude may at least give us credit for consistency and honesty. Dr. B. says: "I believe the calling of a Homeopathic Journalist among the most useful and reputable occupations. Since your inception as such I have watched with pleasure the earnestness with which you have sustained the character of your publication. I have also known with what attention and success you have acted as a practising physician.

"I wish your example was more effective in some places I could name. I am aware that those in active practice find the most palpable excuses from the work, but I know, also, there remains yet much to be done by the teachers of our system in this country, for the universal promulgation of its doctrines. In acting for years as the Editor of a highly scientific journal, and as an active practitioner of medicine, you have pursued a course for which the community and the profession should vote you thanks.

"A man may do everything in practice, may prescribe for fifty or more patients daily, and yet not do half as much in spreading the truth of science, as the journalist."

M. FREIGHT, M.D., of New York, writes: "I am happy to see the 'American Journal of Homeopathy' evincing, if possible, an increase of faith at every monthly issue. Its close adherence to the law founded upon the immutable basis of truth, and as promulgated by the immortal Hahnemann, *similia similibus curantur*, must not only recommend it to the careful perusal of every friend of Homeopathy, but produce a desire upon their part to extend its usefulness by a more general circulation and intimate acquaintance with the principles it so ably and so zealously advocates.

"Please send it to my friends G. L—, M.D., and R. B—, M.D., and consider them subscribers, commencing with the first number of the present volume."

HOMEOPATHIC MEDICAL COLLEGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

The advertisement of the above college appears in our advertising columns, to which we ask the attention of students of medicine, as well as physicians who desire to acquire a knowledge of Homeopathy and its practice. This college was organised but a few years ago, and such has been its success, even in the midst of pretty strong opposition, that its permanency and usefulness are no longer doubtful.

We must admit that the faculty and the friends of the college have achieved in an unusually short time, more, much more, than we had anticipated at the commencement of the enterprise. Notwithstanding the prosperity of the "Homeopathic Medical College," there are yet, as usual, *croakers* even among homœopathists, but their voice is weak, and grows weaker every year, and finally will not be heard at all. It is surprising how few among physicians in this age of light, understand the principle and practice of toleration. If it were thoroughly studied and habitually practiced it would save us a world of trouble; but there are minds so warped and crisped that no scheme, no enterprise, however commendable, can prevent them from snapping and snarling, growling and grumbling, because everybody don't see with their eyes, and fall in with their intolerant spirit and impracticable plans.

In this country we are in the habit of forming a favorable opinion of that which is successful in practice. If we judge the college under notices by this rule, then we must conclude that it is managed with skill, and its faculty must be worthy the confidence of physicians, students, and the public.

In looking over the names of the professors we perceive that we have the honor of a personal acquaintance with all of them, with but a single exception, and we are happy in knowing that they are all sound in the faith, and imbued with the spirit of the doctrines of Homeopathy as taught by Hahnemann. There is not a mongrel or an eclectic among them; and for this reason alone we should think that every true homeopath would use his influence in favor of the "Homeopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania." It is, to our mind, worthy of notice that the management of this college, composed, we believe, altogether of laymen, should have formed a faculty of seven

professors so harmonious in their views of Homeopathy, and so fraternal in their feelings to each other. They are men of great industry, of pure morals, and of talents of the right stamp for the present age, being more practical than ornamental.

We do not doubt that the graduates of this college will ultimately stand high in the estimation of the public; and for this reason—they will be taught the pure doctrine of Homeopathy, its practice as well as its principles, together with all the other branches necessary for an accomplished physician; and the visible industry of the professors will be an ever living example, the influence of which cannot be readily thrown off by the students when they enter upon the responsible duties of their professional life. These reflections carry us back almost thirty years, and although indolence has been a trouble to us, yet we feel to this day that the industry of Godman, of Hosack, of Mott, of Frances, of Bushe, and of others, lives in all its freshness in our mind.

This subject, to some, may seem a small matter for us to occupy the attention of the readers of this Journal with, and an unusual mode of speaking of a college; we however look upon it of great importance, and seeing its presence in the Homeopathic College of Pennsylvania, we do not hesitate to mention it, although it may be unfashionable to do so.

For the New-York Journal of Homeopathy.

NEW-YORK, July 19, 1852.

Dr. Kirby,

DEAR SIR,—I perceive from your Journal that there is to be a proving of new remedies at the Institute, and I deeply regret that hydrophobia is not one of them, although I think it worth proving more than all the rest. With confidence, which rests on faithful analogical intentions, I look to it for curative efficacy, not only in a confirmed *Hydrophobia*, but in all those distressing maladies of the nerves on which the known resources of the healing art have been exhausted all in vain. How comes it, that, among so many zealous homeopathic students, enjoying health and youthful vigor, not one has dared yet to prove it on himself, and thus fulfil the most important of his duties? Hahnemann's disciples ought not to be such cravens. If homeopathists, from their numerical minority, have had no opportunity to try

this remedy, they should at least make sure of its specific virtues, so as to cut off all pretext for casting it aside, on the part of their heartless adversaries, who, it seems, will rather kill by *Chloroform*, or let the works of death go on *ad libitum*, than cure by any agent stained with the heresy of homeopathic mind and labor. It is quite time that the physician who, from such inhuman motives, spurns the only chance of saving the despairing patient, otherwise inevitably doomed, should be amenable to the supreme avenger—the **TRIBUNAL OF THE PUBLIC.**

AUTHOR OF
"HOMEOPATHY REVEALED."

UNIVERSITY OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

The New York Academy of Medicine and the Medical Gazette are out in opposition to the above Institution. The latter is extremely violent, so much so that the Faculty of the University could well afford to contribute something to the support of the Gazette, because its opposition is the best kind of advertising. The former passed certain offensive resolutions which were sent to the Faculty, who replied that the University did not recognize its authority; and Dr. Mott resigned his membership of the Academy, which was a wise movement, but it would have been wiser if he had never united with it. The whole profession in this country looked upon Dr. Valentine Mott with pride. He is regarded as emphatically *the Surgeon of America*. We all respect him and love him. Many of us were deeply mortified when he formally connected himself with a *clique*, whose purposes were well known to be selfish and intolerant. He found the yoke of the Academy galling, and he threw it off. Dr. M. once more stands in a position where he can allow the overflowings of those liberal professional feelings with which he is known to be so largely endowed.

The Gazette vents its spite at Prof. Gunning S. Bedford, and in our opinion very unjustly. We doubt if Dr. Bedford has his equal, as a teacher of his branch. In this light he is to be viewed in relation to the University. Whatever there is in him objectionable, as a man, is not a proper subject for a journalist.

There are three Medical Colleges in this city. The College of Physicians and Surgeons

of the State of New York, the University of the city of New York, and the New York Medical College. Each of these has an able Faculty. Although a Homeopathist as we are, we cannot speak disrespectfully, or in the least detract from the high standing of our medical colleges of this city. The Professors, without an exception, are high-minded, honorable men. They understand their business, which is to teach, and they never inquire what a student intends to do with the knowledge he may acquire from them. They will give a *diploma* to the student of a Homeopath, if on examination he is found qualified, as soon as to one of their own. The New York Colleges have never manifested anything like intolerance, and we are sure they never will, for the spirit of our republican institutions will be forever a bar to such inconsistency.

Some of our readers may inquire, why do you speak thus of Allopathic colleges? The answer is, they teach thoroughly branches which are indispensable to every real physician, viz.: Anatomy and Physiology, Surgical Anatomy and Surgery, Midwifery, Chemistry, and the character of diseases, with their history. The only things we object to are their Therapeutics and their Materia Medica, both of which are of no practical value; and yet every student should know the allopathic mode of treating diseases, as a matter of history, if nothing more. Therefore we do not think it right to denounce, indiscriminately, the medical colleges of our city and country because two branches out of nine are rejected by the school of Homeopathy.

WHAT IS HOMEOPATHY?

The following is from a pamphlet entitled "What is Homœopathy?" By W. SHARP, F.R.S., London.

5. Homeopathy is not a "*humbug*." Neither are those who profess it "knaves or fools, swindlers or donkeys." Were the matter a piece of deceit, it is not likely to have had the steady success which its opponents are constrained to acknowledge attends its practice. A short time, at any rate, would expose its fallacy. An ingenious and plausible advocate might make an *hypothesis* popular, but he could never obtain extensive belief in the statement of a supposed *fact* which every day's observation proved to be untrue. As to the hard names, they are no arguments, and therefore must remain unanswered, except by the observation that they generally betray a weak

cause on the side of those who use them: Men conscious of integrity can afford to despise them. We are forbidden, and feel no inclination to return railing for railing; what we wish is that our medical brethren would study our science, and instead of abusing us, help us to improve it, for the benefit of our own and of future generations. When any one speaks disrespectfully of things of which he is ignorant, he may be very fitly rebuked, as Dr. Halley was by Sir Isaac Newton:—"I have studied these things—you have not."

6. HOMEOPATHY IS A GENERAL FACT,—*a principle*,—*a law of nature*. All nature is exquisitely arranged and governed by perfect laws,—the result of infinite wisdom and almighty power. The discovery of these general facts has marked epochs in the annals of mankind. What consequences have followed the discovery that a magnetised steel bar, when free to move horizontally, always turns one of its extremities towards the north pole of the earth? And what will follow from the further fact, so recently discovered by Cœrsted, that when this bar is surrounded by a current of electricity, its direction is altered, at will, to the right hand or to the left, as is seen in the electric telegraph? Who attempts to *explain* or to *ridicule* these things? They are *FACTS*. Newton discovered that the force of gravity is in direct proportion to the mass of matter in the attracting bodies, and in inverse proportion to the square of their distances. Doubtless many other proportions are *possible*, but this is the one fixed upon by the wisdom of the Great God. Dalton discovered that the elements of matter, when combining chemically with each other, always do so in certain fixed proportions; for example, oxygen combines with hydrogen in the proportion of eight parts by weight to one. This is an interesting particular fact; but it becomes much more important when it is known to be a general fact that oxygen will combine in the same proportion of eight parts by weight with a fixed weight of every other element; as with six of carbon, sixteen of sulphur, fifteen of phosphorus, thirty-five of chlorine, twenty-seven of iron, thirty-one of copper, etc., and these likewise with each other in the same proportions in which they combine with oxygen; as thirty-five of chlorine with one of hydrogen, twenty-seven of iron, thirty-one of copper, etc., etc. Here is a law of nature, absolutely unalterable by us, and yet it is most evident that these proportions of combination *might* have been very different;—they are so arranged by infinite wisdom—we cannot explain why—*shall we ridicule the arrangement?* So we can imagine many laws of healing, but our business is to discover, if possible, the actual one. The evidence in favor of *similia similibus curantur* is already great, and is increasing daily. It claims to be received as a *general fact*, unless it can be set aside by good *evidence* to the contrary. Let it be borne in mind that ordinary

medicine is without a rule, and even, as contended for by the present President of the Royal College of Physicians, "incapable" of receiving one. It is, consequently, in the condition of ships before the discovery of the mariner's compass. If then a rule be found, how great must be its value! It is not possible to overrate the value of a well-founded principle in any branch of science, for "principles built upon the unerring foundation of observations and experiments must necessarily stand good till the dissolution of nature itself." (Emerson, in *Newton's Principia*, vol. iii. p. 86.)

7. *Homeopathy is a practical fact.* It is not a speculative theory to be reasoned upon in the closet, but a fact to be observed at the bedside; it is no metaphysical subject, to be logically shown by *a priori* reasoning to be absurd; it is no piece of presumption and impudence to be put down "by authority," as the Council of our Royal College of Surgeons happily acknowledges; it is a fact to be examined, like the statement of any other fact, *upon evidence*. We are not called upon to sit down and imagine its possibility or its impossibility, but we are urgently pressed to observe whether it be true or not. Hundreds of credible witnesses tell us that all curable diseases are, for the most part, readily cured by the new method. This is asserted as a fact. Is it true? This is the question. Try the medicines—why should you not? The interests of humanity require it. If they succeed, it is a great blessing; if they fail, publish the failures. This is the only fair and honest way to oppose homeopathy, and in no other way is it likely to be opposed with success.

8. *Homeopathy stands upon its comparative merits.* This must be the test of all methods of treating disease. There is no absolute preservation from suffering in a sinful world, nor any deliverance from death. "There is no discharge in that war." And as all generations have died under the old method, so, should the new one prevail, all generations will continue to die under it. This consideration should render disputants on both sides sober-minded. Medical men are engaged in an unequal contest—the great enemy will always conquer at last; but the question is a fair and rational one, from which class of means we do actually obtain the greatest amount of relief from bodily suffering, and by which is the apparent approach of death most frequently warded off? This reduces the whole matter to what would seem to be its proper shape—a practical question—what will do me most good when I am ill?

9. *The old method is unsatisfactory.* This is admitted by almost all medical authorities. It is not necessary to bring forward quotations in support of this statement, they might be had in abundance; but the fact is so notorious, that the differing of doctors has become a proverb; in short, there is no opposition of senti-

ment or of practice too great not to be frequently met with. I well remember the reply made to me by an eminent and old practitioner when I was a pupil, who saw the distress I was in on perceiving the uncertain condition of medical knowledge, "If there be nothing true in medicine, there is in surgery, so you must give your mind to that!" The old medicine is in the condition that astronomy was in before Newton, and in a worse condition than chemistry was in before Dalton; many valuable isolated facts known, but no golden thread, no law of nature discovered, by which a host of conflicting conjectures might be dissipated, and facts reduced to an intelligible order.

10. *Homeopathy is simple and intelligible.* However absurd the rule may appear to some, it is, practically, a plain one, and becomes, to those who follow it, more easy and more satisfactory every day. It is not pretended that it can be carried out without serious labor. The law of gravity is abundantly plain and simple, but there are plenty of difficulties, notwithstanding, in working out the inequalities of the moon's motions.

11. *Homeopathy gains by comparison.* It is more successful than the old system. This comparison can be instituted in two ways—by the statistics of public institutions, and by those converts from the old practice who have tried it long enough to be able to compare with each other the results, in their own hands, of the two methods. As an illustration of the former mode of comparison, the following abstract, drawn from Dr. Routh's statistics (in the "Fallacies of Homeopathy"), is given by his reviewer, "by which the relative success of the new and the old modes of treatment can be seen at a glance."

<i>Homeopathic Treatment.</i>	<i>Allopathic Treatment.</i>
Deaths per cent.	Deaths per cent.
Pneumonia..... 5·7 24·
Pleuritis..... 3· 13·
Peritonitis..... 4· 13·
Dysentery..... 3· 22·
All Diseases.... 4·4 8·5

When, in 1836, the Asiatic cholera attacked, as an awful scourge, the city of Vienna, all the hospitals were fitted up to receive cases indiscriminately, as they occurred; one was a homeopathic hospital, but under the inspection of two allopathic physicians. The authorised report, when the epidemic had done its work of death, was this:—

Mortality in the Homeopathic Hospital. *Mortality in the Allopathic Hospital.*

Under 33 per cent. 66 per cent.

Two-thirds recovered in the one, and two-thirds died in the other. See the well-known book, "Austria and its Institutions," by Mr. W. R. Wilde, M.R.I.A.

The results of the treatment of Asiatic cholera in this country have been similarly successful. When it visited Liverpool, in 1849, it was of a virulent character. During the

week ending on the 18th of August, the number of deaths amounted to 572. The total number of deaths in Liverpool from cholera, from May 20th to October 6th, was 5,095. The population of the town at that time was 360,000. The mortality by cholera was therefore about 1-4 per cent. of the entire population. The mortality out of the cases of cholera was 46 per cent., as reported by Dr. Duncan, the medical officer of health: the mortality among those treated homeopathically was 25 per cent.

Many other statistics might be added, leading to the same conclusion. The second mode of comparison rests in the bosom of each private practitioner. Thus much, however, may be stated, so far as I am at present informed; every practitioner who has, with sufficient care and perseverance, studied homeopathy, has embraced it, and I have not yet heard of one who has deserted its ranks because he has been disappointed as to the efficacy and superiority of this mode of treatment. For myself I may be permitted to say that, having practiced the old method for many years with success, and having now devoted myself for some time to the new mode, while I at once acknowledge that the study is laborious, and not without its difficulties, I am persuaded that it is a change for the better, and I venture to engage that if my medical brethren will try such plants as the following, prepared as we now use them, in the cases for which they are indicated by the law of *similia*, they will be greatly surprised and gratified by their beneficial effects:—

<i>Aconitum Napellus,</i>	<i>Atropa Belladonna,</i>
<i>Bryonia Alba,</i>	<i>Arnica Montana,</i>
<i>Matricaria Chamomilla,</i>	<i>Pulsatilla Pratensis,</i>
<i>Ipomoea aquatica,</i>	<i>Nux Vomica, etc., etc.</i>

12. *Homeopathy is medical treatment.* It is not the do-nothing system which it is represented to be by opponents, who thus only betray their ignorance. When fever and dysentery were desolating many parts of Ireland in 1847, one of the places which suffered most was Bantry, near Skibbereen, in the county of Cork. During ten weeks one hundred and ninety two cases were treated homeopathically by Mr. Kidd, at their two homes, amid all the wretchedness of famine; the mortality from fever was less than two per cent., and from dysentery fourteen per cent. During the same period many were treated on the old method in the Bantry Union Hospital, with the advantages of proper ventilation, attendance, nourishment, etc., and from the report of Dr. Tuckey, the physician, the mortality from fever was more than thirteen per cent., and from dysentery, thirty-six per cent.

At the same time another Fever Hospital was opened for similar cases occurring among the emigrants from Ireland to this country, in which the medical man tells us he abstained from all interference, and remained passively watching the cases, order-

ing them free ventilation, cleanliness, and confinement to bed; water, or milk and water being given as drinks. He congratulates himself upon the success attendant upon thus allowing the cases to take their natural course, undisturbed by medicine; the deaths from fever in this hospital were ten per cent. We have here, therefore, an opportunity of comparing together the results of the three methods—the ordinary system of medicine, no medicine at all, and the homeopathic medicine. The deaths from fever are thus reported:—under ordinary medicine, above thirteen per cent.; under no medicine at all, ten per cent.; under homeopathic medicine, less than two per cent. A sufficient proof that *that* is doing something and gaining by it; while by the same comparison, giving large doses of medicine is doing something indeed, but losing by it.

13. *Homeopathy is a practical guide.* It is not, like hydropathy, a single remedy to be applied in the treatment of every disease; it is a guide or rule to direct us in the use of all remedies. The medical practitioner who for years has felt and mourned over the bewildered condition of his professional knowledge, the contradictions of his theories, and the uncertainty of his facts, is the only person who can fully appreciate the value of any principle capable of affording him a light to guide his path. Few intelligent persons, however, can have failed to discover, from their intercourse with physicians, that ordinary medicine is in an unsettled and be-nighted condition. It has many valuable facts, it has many excellent remedies; but the facts are isolated, or connected only by false hypotheses, and the remedies are made use of in such a vague manner, and in such destructive doses, that the value of the one and the excellence of the other are either greatly impaired or converted into injuries.

14. *Homeopathy is a guide in the choice of the medicine, not of the dose.* The dose is, as yet, a question of experience. The law of *similia* is an admirable guide in the selection of an appropriate remedy in any case of disease; but the only information it affords in the choice of the dose is this, that it must be a *smaller* one than would be sufficient to produce similar symptoms in health. *How small* a dose this is must be ascertained by trial, until some general fact or law can happily be discovered which will constitute a guide to the dose, as the law of *similia* does to the medicine. I venture to entertain a sanguine hope that this will be accomplished.

15. *Homeopathy aims at eradicating, or permanently curing the disease*, wherever this is possible, not merely at affording palliative relief. This constitutes another great feature of the new method, and again points out, in a striking manner, its superiority over the old mode. If the symptoms of an ailment are cured by the operation of the remedy upon the constitution, the cause of those

symptoms, or the pathological condition, is, in all probability, permanently removed. In seeking to effect this, no other mischief is occasioned. How often has not this case occurred: a patient is suffering from cough, medicines called expectorants are prescribed. At the next visit the cough is somewhat relieved, but the expectorants have unfortunately produced nausea, and the appetite is gone: mineral acids are ordered to improve the tone of the stomach, and to restore appetite. At the following visit the appetite is better, but the acid has irritated the mucous membrane of the bowels, and has produced diarrhoea; to check this astringents must be given, which have occasioned, by the time of the next visit, a return or aggravation of the cough, and thus the round has to be recommenced. Who does not see that there is room for improvement in such a system? But the greatest of all difficulties of the old mode of treatment is this,—to decide the point whether depleting and lowering measures, antiphlogistics, as they are called, are indicated, or the opposite remedies, stimulants and tonics. The most eminent and experienced practitioners not unfrequently differ in their opinions upon this important point, even when humanly speaking, the life of the patient hangs upon the decision. Now this acknowledged and grave difficulty is greatly mitigated, if not entirely removed, under the new method; the group of symptoms has to be taken, and a similar group found belonging to any remedy;—that is the remedy most likely to be useful, by whatever name it has been usual to designate it.

16. *Homeopathy economizes the vital powers.* It does not, like bleeding, purging, and salivating, and sweating, draw largely upon the remaining strength of the patient, already perhaps greatly reduced by his sufferings. Homeopathy lets well alone. Its medicines act only on the diseased organ. If the head be sick, it does not add to this sickness a complaint in the intestines, which strong purgatives must do; if the lungs be inflamed, it does not also bring on an inflammation in the skin, which a blister does. The beneficial consequence of this method is conspicuous in the speedy return of the patient to his accustomed health and occupation. When the acute disease is removed, which it often is in an unusually short space of time, the patient is well; he has no tedious convalescence, requiring wine and bark.

17. *Homeopathy is gentle and agreeable.* If the new mode of treatment be found on trial to be *only as efficacious* as the old one, it ought to be preferred on account of its gentleness and pleasantness; how much more if it succeed *better*. The action of the medicines, in point of fact, is found to be such as to supersede the necessity for the severe measures and nauseous doses hitherto had recourse to. The medicines are tasteless, or nearly so, themselves, and they do not need

the aid of such formidable adjuncts, as bleeding, and blistering, and setons, and issues, and cauterizations, and moxas. Already, indeed, the beneficial influence of homeopathy in this respect upon general practice has been generally felt. In the year 1827, I attended the hospital in Paris, which was in charge of Baron Larrey, Senior Surgeon to the Army of Napoleon. At every morning's visit, he had, among his numerous attendants, two "internes," or dressers, as they are called at the London hospitals, accoutered in this manner:—one carried a small chafing-dish with fire in it, the other a box, containing a number of actual cauteries (irons like small pokers), and a pair of bellows. As we passed from bed to bed, one or more of the suffering occupants was sure to be ordered to the cauter, when one of the irons was immediately placed in the chafing-dish, the bellows were applied, and as soon as the instrument was brilliantly red hot, the Baron would take it in his hand, and deliberately draw two or three lines on the flesh of the patient, very like the marks with which most of us are familiar, made by the ordnance surveyors on our houses and pavements, during their labors in all parts of the country. Now, surely, to see banished forever, not only such painful methods as this, but everything which approaches to it, must be a summation to be wished for.

18. *Homeopathy administers one medicine at a time.* This is another great improvement. How was it possible ever to attain to a satisfactory knowledge of the powers and properties of any drug, so long as several were always combined together when given to a patient? In the days of Sydenham, the father of English medicine, sixty or eighty medicines were mixed together in the favorite prescriptions; this number has been greatly reduced since the time of Sydenham, but so long as only two medicines are given together, it is impossible to ascertain with accuracy the effects of either.

19. *The Homeopathic physician learns the properties of drugs by experiments upon himself, not upon his patients.* That the contrary has been the plan hitherto adopted, is notorious. How many poor people have been deterred from availing themselves of the aid of our hospitals, lest they should have "experiences" tried upon them!

The only certain way of learning the effects of drugs upon man's health, is to administer them experimentally to *healthy* persons. None have thought of this method, so far as appears, except the illustrious Haller and Hahnemann;—none have attempted to carry it out except Hahnemann and his disciples.

It is evident that the properties of medicinal substances must be ascertained by some kind of experiment; the question in dispute is this,—is it best to try those experiments upon sick persons, or upon healthy ones? Shall the physician get his knowledge by ex-

perimenting upon his patients or upon himself? The practitioners of the old school pursue the former method, those of the new one the latter. What does the patient say?

20. Homeopathy is applicable to acute as well as to chronic diseases. When the discovery was first announced to the world by Hahnemann, he did not carry its application further than to chronic diseases,—to ailments continuing for a long time. And the impression is still general that such treatment may possibly avail where there is abundance of time, but what is to be done in cases of emergency? Acute disease with immediate danger,—how can you trust to homeopathy then? The answer to this grave question which manifold experience gives, as indeed may be partly gathered from the statistics of cholera and other acute diseases, given in the preceding pages, is this,—that it is able to grapple with the most dangerous and sudden attacks of disease more successfully than any other known method of treatment.

21. Homeopathy is prepared for any new form of disease far better than the old method. This fact was very strikingly exhibited on the appearance of Asiatic cholera in Europe. The various Colleges of Physicians were quite at a loss to know how to deal with the formidable stranger; and when called upon, in their respective countries, to issue advice and directions, nothing could be more painful than the visible inconsistencies and unsatisfactoriness of their multiform recommendations.

On the other hand, the homeopathic practitioners, whether in Russia or in Austria, in France or in England, found the true remedies without co-operation and without difficulty, and they proved wonderfully successful. Hahnemann himself published a tract pointing out the proper treatment, from the description he had read of the disease before he had seen a case.

This point was with Sydenham a great source of perplexity. "This, at least," says he, "I am convinced of, viz., that epidemic diseases differ from one another like north and south, and that the remedy which would cure patient at the beginning of a year, will kill him perhaps at the close. Again, that when once by good fortune I have hit upon the true and proper line of practice that this or that fever requires, I can (with the assistance of the Almighty), by taking my aim in the same direction, generally succeed in my results. This lasts until the first form of epidemic becomes extinct, and until a fresh one sets in. Then I am again in a quandary, and am puzzled to think how I can give relief. . . . It is more than I can do to avoid risking the lives of one or two of the first who apply to me as patients."* This is the confession of a man entitled, for his truthfulness and his genius, to the high-

est admiration. The difficulty, though not perhaps always so frankly acknowledged, has been always felt until now; it is not a difficulty in homeopathy.

22. Homeopathy carries into detail what all medicine is in the general. Medicines are not food, but poisons; not materials which of themselves can preserve or produce health. They are all naturally inimical to the human body, but when that body is in a state of disease, they are found, as a matter of experience, sometimes to assist in restoring it to health.

Medicine, in the general, is poison to the healthy frame of man, and a remedy to that frame when sick; this is admitted by all, and this is homeopathy in the general; why not then have homeopathy in detail? Why not first ascertain what symptoms each poison produces, when taken in health, and why not give it as a remedy for similar symptoms in natural disease? Medical men have been experimenting in the treatment of disease for many centuries, why not try this experiment? Our opponents admit in general what they ridicule and oppose when carried out in particulars.

23. Finally, homeopathy relates only to the administration of remedies, and detracts nothing from the value of the collateral branches of the science of medicine. It leaves anatomy, physiology, chemistry, etc., unaffected. The homeopathic physician ought to be as accomplished in this and other departments of knowledge as his fellow-practitioner of the old school; and he is more likely than the other to turn all such knowledge to the beneficial account of his patient.

PERIODICALS RECEIVED.

The North-Western Journal of Homeopathy for April, May and June, in one number.

Quarterly Homœopathic Journal, edited by Drs. J. Birnstill and J. A. Tarbell, and published by Otis Clapp, Boston. The editors say, "After an intermission of eighteen months, the 'Quarterly' again makes its appearance. Although reduced in size, we trust it will not be found so in spirit." The subscription price is one dollar a year.

The Philadelphia Journal of Homeopathy, for August, 1852. A valuable number.

The American Magazine, devoted to Homeopathy and Hydropathy, for August, 1852.

The Michigan Journal of Homeopathy.

* Works of Sydenham, vol. i. p. 33, Sydenham Society's edition.

HOMOEOPATHIST *versus* ALLOPATHIST.

To the *Editor of the Homœopathic Times.*

SIR:—Perhaps my subject, and the inexperience which must be evident in my treatment of it, will preclude the possibility of its appearance in your columns; nevertheless what seems to me to be a duty towards those participants in our opinions who are in any way likely to be intimidated by the invectives so liberally poured forth by our antagonists—who, it must be confessed, are greatly to be pitied, considering the rapid increase of the popularity and adoption of our system—shall be performed.

I am personally acquainted with many unfortunate individuals who have rejected homeopathy when on the point of its adoption, because their medical friend (or, till worse, adviser) has terrified their imaginations with fearful stories of patients lost, or starved, or poisoned under its treatment; some asserting our medicines to be virulent poisons, others that they are no medicines at all, and midst these contradictory statements the terrified patient remains under the tender care of his licensed annihilator, till, when all human aid is of no avail, a homeopathic physician is applied to, and in a few days or weeks the death of the unlucky patient adds, *of course*, one more decisive proof to the inefficacy of our devoted system.

There is another fashionable fallacy to which I would call the attention of the inexperienced. I have often heard the remark, "But, surely, medical men must have the best means of judging of the effects of this and every other medical system." And permit me to say, this holds true, if self-interest is the best pair of spectacles a man can wear to discern clearly the merits of a cause decidedly opposed to that instinct; but I will ask those who hold this opinion, whether the merits of law reform would receive a due appreciation from an attorney, or if a regulation of the church revenues (of which we have of late heard so much) would be wisely intrusted to a bishop. Now I think the simple deduction from this "rule of two" will be, that an allopathic practitioner is not the most fit person of all others to judge of the merits of our system. I would also observe, that my experience has invariably shown me that those professional members of the old system to whom their practice is of no pecuniary importance, or has retired from them or they from it, are never decidedly opposed

to the doctrine or the disciples of the man who will at some future period be universally acknowledged as the medical benefactor of his race. Meanwhile, why cannot our persecutors follow the charitable counsel of Gamaliel? fully persuaded, as they are, that if our system is what they believe it to be—a pitiful deception, a mockery habited in the garb of science—it will, it *must* fall; it *must* decrease. The public mind, though it may not be, nor is it well stored with medical *learning*, as are these worthy gentlemen, is still not so devoid of common sense and common perception as to be long deceived by a shadow, by a nothing wearing the *show* of reality. But if, as we know, it is far otherwise, let them remember that little indeed can envy, hatred, and malice do to retard the progress of a great truth; and let us ever remember that when reason fails, ridicule and calumny are the broken reeds resorted to; they are, as it were, the last death-struggle of an expiring cause, the last flickering of a decaying light, flaring with increased brilliancy immediately previous to its fatal extinction.

My advice is that we be neither importunate nor uncharitable towards those who will some day find it convenient to change their opinions. We can *afford* to be otherwise; we have on our side what none can take from us—*truth*. Let us then willingly and cheerfully leave to them the enjoyment of that ridicule and satire so freely bestowed on us, and in charity attribute the unhealthy susceptibility of their minds to the poisonous *effluvia* of their own laboratories, proving, by our own dignified reserve, that homeopathy is as beneficial to the moral as to the physical condition of mankind.

I remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
A LAY HOMOEOPATH.

The North American Homœopathic Journal and the Homœopathist do not reach this office. The latter we have not seen, for six months. Where is it?

The committee who have in charge the establishment of a Homœopathic Hospital in this city, are zealously engaged in their duties, and we understand that the prospect is good for a speedy organization of such an institution. The committee have prepared an address to the public and the friends of Homœopathy, which we received too late for notice.